

over the whole surface ; in others the markings are crowded on the larger end.

- The note of *Sarciophorus pectoralis* is a shrill cry of “këry këry,” repeated several times in quick succession.

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XXV.—*Notes on the Birds of Tangier and Eastern Morocco.*

By C. F. TYRWHITT DRAKE.

THE following few notes, on the birds which I observed in the neighbourhood of Tangier during my stay there from January to the beginning of April last, may not be without interest, as that part of Africa has not received much attention from ornithologists. The country immediately around Tangier is not so good for a collector as that near Tetuan, which lies at the foot of a northern spur of the Atlas, rising there abruptly from the plain to an elevation seemingly of six or seven thousand feet, though unfortunately I had not any instruments with me to ascertain its real height. These mountains are in many parts well wooded ; and the Andalusian Quail, Woodpeckers, and Owls are abundant, while on the rocky cliffs Eagles, Vultures, and Hawks breed in numbers. Nearer the town, orange-groves extend almost without interruption for two or three miles, watered by a stream abounding in trout ; and here the Dusky Ixus literally swarms, while the gardens are the chief haunts of the various Warblers, which delight in the shelter afforded by the cane-hedges. Wild-fowl are plentiful in the marshes at Martine, the port of Tetuan, about eight miles distant, as well as Crakes, Egrets, and other marsh-fowl.

Of the Eagles and Vultures, few remain in Morocco during the winter, but most come in flights from the south-east and south between the 15th and 20th of March, almost invariably during an easterly wind. Alpine Swifts make their appearance at the same time ; but the Bee-eaters and Rollers do not generally come till the middle of April. Most of the Hawks and Buzzards remain during the winter, and are very plentifully scattered over the whole country ; yet notwithstanding these, as well as other two-legged and four-footed foes, there is an abundance of game, consisting of Barbary Partridges, Snipes,

and Wild-fowl, besides a few Hares, of which there are two species, so distinct that even the natives have different names for them. Rabbits also are found on the hillsides. Quails and Little Bustards make their appearance in the corn-fields at Tangier in April and May.

The Rif country, which lies along the coast east of Tetuan, would probably be full of interest to the naturalist, as, from what can be gathered from the Moors, it is in many parts still virgin-forest; but as yet no European has ever been able to explore it. The people, who seem to be a distinct race from the Moors—having much fairer complexions, and speaking a dialect which varies from the Mogrebbin or Moorish Arabic—are very warlike, continually fighting among themselves and murdering any wretched Moors or Jews who happen to fall into their clutches. They are extremely jealous of strangers setting foot in their territory; and in fact it seems impossible for any one to do so; for though they are called subjects of the Sultan of Morocco, his power over them is scarcely more than nominal. In these forests a large wild beast is said to live, the description of which answers in many respects to that of a Bear; but its existence is rather mythical, as no reward has hitherto been able to tempt the hunters to produce its skin. The Barbary Ape, however, is very plentiful on the precipices and wooded hillsides.

Along the coast to the west of Tangier are several alluvial plains, which, in a few places, are formed into lakes by the mouths of the rivers passing through them becoming silted up by the sand drifted from the sea-shore. These are the chief resorts of the water-fowl: amongst them the commonest is the Buff-backed Heron, which, during the early part of the winter is found scattered about the plains, feeding among the cattle or picking insects off their backs. At this time it is extremely tame, but as the spring advances, collecting in flocks previous to migrating to its breeding-grounds (which I believe lie in the marshes of the interior south-west of Tangier), it becomes one of the most difficult birds to approach.

There are many wild beasts to be found in this district. The Wild Boar is still plentiful on the hills, where he makes his lair in almost impenetrable thickets of gum-cistus and heather,



AQUILA PENNATA (Gmel.). Has been seen a few times at Tetuan and Tangier.

PANDION HALIÆTUS (Linn.). Tolerably common along the coast, and breeds there.

FALCO PEREGRINUS\*, Linn. Common: breeds in the mountains.

FALCO LANARIUS, Schl. I saw a tame Falcon taken at Tetuan, which I believe to have been of this species.

FALCO SUBBUTEO, Linn. I saw this bird twice near Cape Negro.

TINNUNCULUS ALAUDARIUS, G. R. Gray. "Sweef." Very common.

TINNUNCULUS CENCHRIS (Naum.). Passes over during the March migration, but remains all the year at Laraiche. I obtained several specimens thence in February; and it also breeds there.

MILVUS ICTINUS, Sav. "Sewâna." Not uncommon in winter at Tetuan.

MILVUS MIGRANS (Bodd.). Breeds.

ELANUS CÆRULEUS (Desf.). I shot one at Tangier, and a second at Tetuan. I saw a few others. It breeds on the mountains west of Tetuan.

ACCIPITER NISUS (Linn.). I shot one, February 20th, at Tangier, where it is only seen on passage. It usually does not come till March.

CIRCUS ÆRUGINOSUS (Linn.). Very common.

CIRCUS CYANEUS (Linn.).  
CIRCUS CINERACEUS (Mont.). } Seen on several occasions.

ASIO BRACHYOTUS (Linn.).  
ASIO CAPENSIS (A. Smith). } Common.

ATHENE PERSICA (Vieill.). Plentiful everywhere.

SYRNIUM ALUCO (Linn.). I found numbers in caves at Tetuan.

\* [Qu. *F. barbarus*?—ED.]

PICUS NUMIDICUS, Malh. }  
 GECINUS VAILLANTI (Malh.). } On Tetuan mountains.

JYNX TORQUILLA, Linn. I shot one in a vineyard at Tangier, March 30th. It is rather more ochreous beneath than British examples, and the grey is lighter than in them.

CORACIAS GARRULA, Linn. Seen frequently about the middle and end of April. Breeds further down the west coast.

MEROPS APIASTER, Linn. Very abundant. Arrives in the beginning of April.

ALCEDO ISPIDA, Linn. Common, and breeds.

UPUFA EPOPS, Linn. Arrives about February 20th, and is then to be found all over the country. About April it seems to go further west to breed.

CUCULUS CANORUS, Linn. Arrives in the spring.

OXYLOPHUS GLANDARIUS (Linn.). I saw one at Tangier January 10th, and on the 15th shot one. I shot another at Tetuan March 15th.

CAPRIMULGUS EUROPÆUS, Linn. }  
 CAPRIMULGUS RUFICOLLIS, Temm. } Known to breed towards Ceuta.

CYPSELUS MELBA (Linn.). Only seen on passage.

CYPSELUS APUS (Linn.). Plentiful in summer.

HIRUNDO RUSTICA, Linn. All the year round.

CHELIDON URBICA (Linn.). }  
 COTYLE RIPARIA (Linn.). } I believe, do not stay the winter.

COTYLE RUPESTRIS (Scop.). I saw this at Tetuan towards the end of March, but only in very small numbers.

ORIOLOUS GALBULA, Linn. Very rare indeed, and only in summer.

LANIUS MERIDIONALIS, Temm. Common everywhere. On the mountains west of Tetuan I once saw another species, which seemed to be *L. excubitor*.

LANIUS COLLURIO, Linn. At Martine in summer.

LANIUS AURICULATUS, P. L. S. Müller. I saw a Woodchat April 2nd.

TELEPHONUS CUCULLATUS (Temm.). Not rare, but very shy. To be found chiefly in the cane-hedges.

MUSCICAPA ATRICAPILLA, Linn. Seen during the spring migration.

IXUS BARBATUS (Desf.). Very common.

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| TURDUS VISCIVORUS, Linn. | } Very common. |
| TURDUS MUSICUS, Linn.    |                |
| TURDUS MERULA, Linn.     |                |

TURDUS TORQUATUS, Linn. One was killed a few years ago at Tangier.

PETROCINCLA CYANA (Linn.). Common on rocky ground. Often frequents cemeteries.

|                                |                                          |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| SAXICOLA CENANTHE (Linn.).     | } None of these are rare during passage. |
| SAXICOLA ALBICOLLIS (Vieill.). |                                          |
| SAXICOLA STAPAZINA (Linn.).    |                                          |

PRATINCOLA RUBETRA (Linn.). Two have been shot at Tetuan.

CYANECULA LEUCOCYANEA, Brehm. Very shy, and consequently little seen, but not rare. This is the form with the *white* breast-spot.

SYLVIA ORPHEA, Temm. At Tetuan, rare.

SYLVIA CONSPICILLATA, Marm. Shot in the salt-marshes at Martine in March.

SYLVIA MELANOCEPHALA (Gmel.). Very common.

MELIZOPHILUS UNDATUS (Bodd.). The Dartford Warbler is common on the plains covered with palmetto.

PHYLLOPNEUSTE RUFA (Lath.). At Tetuan, rare.

SALICARIA AQUATICA (Lath.). Shot in March, being then in winter plumage.



*LOCUSTELLA NÆVIA* (Bodd.). Shot in March.

*PSEUDOLUSCINIA LUSCINIODES* (Savi).  
*POTAMODUS CETTII* (Marm.). } Rare.

*TROGLODYTES PARVULUS*. Koch. I saw also a second species of Wren, which Mr. Green had shot. I hope next winter to procure it myself.

*MOTACILLA ALBA*, Linn.

*BUDYTES FLAVA* (Linn.).

*PARUS ULTRAMARINUS*, Bp. I saw but few, and only succeeded in getting two specimens, both of which I unfortunately lost.

*LINOTA RUFESCENS* (Vieill.). In one of my rides I got within a few yards of a bird that I had no doubt at the time was a Redpoll.

*LINOTA CANNABINA* (Linn.).

*CHRYSOMITRIS SPINUS* (Linn.).

*CARDUELIS ELEGANS* (Steph.).

*SERINUS HORTULORUM*, Koch. Killed at Tangier by M. Favier: rare.

*CHLOROSPIZA AURANTIIVENTRIS*, Cab.

*COCCOTHTRAUSTES VULGARIS*, Steph. I saw one that had been shot at Tetuan by Mr. Green.

*FRINGILLA SPODIOGENIA*, Bp.

*EMBERIZA MILIARIA*, Linn.

*EMBERIZA HORTULANA*, Linn. In summer.

*PLECTROPHANES NIVALIS* (Linn.). One was picked up dead at Cape Spartel.

*MELANOCORYPHA CALANDRA* (Linn.). On the open plains.

*GALERITA CRISTATA* (Linn.).  
*ALAUDA ARVENSIS*, Linn. } Common.

CALANDRELLA BRACHYDACTYLA (Leisl.). On the open plains.

STURNUS VULGARIS, Linn. Uncommon.

STURNUS UNICOLOR, Marm. More common at Tetuan than at Tangier.

CORVUS CORAX, Linn. }  
CORVUS CORONE, Linn. } Very common.

CORVUS MONEDULA, Linn. }  
FREGILUS GRACULUS (Linn.). } Seen in large flocks together,  
but only at Tetuan.

PICA MAURITANICA, Malh. Rabat.

COLUMBA PALUMBUS, Linn. I saw a few flights in March.

COLUMBA LIVIA, Linn. Common on the coast.

CACCABIS PETROSA (Gmel.). "El Häjel." Very common everywhere.

COTURNIX COMMUNIS, Bonn. "Soumēna." Arrives at Tetuan in March, but at Tangier not till April. Breeds.

PTEROCLES ARENARIUS (Pall.). }  
PTEROCLES ALCHATA (Linn.). } "El Koudri." Rabat.

TURNIX SYLVATICA (Desf.). Seems to be tolerably common.

PORZANA MARUETTA (Leach). I shot two at Martine, March 23rd. They are more freckled with white than European specimens.

PORZANA PYGMÆA (Naum.). Rare.

PORPHYRIO HYACINTHINUS, Temm. Found occasionally in the marshes, and, I believe, breeds there.

GALLINULA CHLOROPUS (Linn.). }  
FULICA ATRA, Linn. } Are said to occur on the  
lakes west of Tangier; but  
I did not see any myself.

SCOLOPAX RUSTICOLA, Linn. "Sou-mirh." Common in winter.

GALLINAGO SCOLOPACINUS, Bp. "Boom-en-ar." Common.



*PHALAROPUS FULICARIUS* (Linn.). An exhausted bird was brought to me by a boy in January.

*TRINGA ALPINA*, Linn. Common on the shore at Tangier, in January, but hardly any remained by the middle of February.

*ÆGIALITIS CANTIANUS* (Lath.).

*ÆGIALITIS HIATICULA* (Linn.).

*SQUATAROLA HELVETICA* (Linn.).

*CHARADRIUS PLUVIALIS*, Linn. }  
*VANELLUS CRISTATUS*, Meyer. } Common.

*GLAREOLA PRATINCOLA* (Linn.). Occasionally seen at Martine.

*CURSORIUS GALLICUS* (Gmel.). Rare ; arrives in May or June.

*HIMANTOPUS CANDIDUS* (Bonn.). I saw several.

*EDICNEMUS CREPITANS*, Temm. Common.

*OTIS TETRAX*, Linn. "Boozerat." Common in summer.

*OTIS ARABS*\*, Linn. A specimen brought from Dar-el-baida, on the west coast, not very far from Mogador.

*GRUS CINEREA*, Bechst. "Garnook." Seen occasionally.

*GRUS VIRGO* (Linn.). I shot one at Martine, March 23rd.

*ARDEA CINEREA*, Linn. "Hameedo-el-wad" or "El Rhabeah." Found on all the rivers.

*ARDEA BUBULCUS*, Sav. Very common.

*ARDEA GARZETTA*, Linn. A few usually at Martine in winter.

*NYCTICORAX GRISEUS* (Linn.). One shot by Mr. Green at Tetuan.

\* [The specimen obtained by our contributor was submitted for determination to Mr. George Gray, who has most kindly compared it with examples in the British Museum, and informed us that he could not refer it to any other species, though some slight differences were observable. Can it be this species which has hitherto been taken for *O. tarda* in Morocco?—ED.]

*BOTAURUS STELLARIS* (Linn.). Not rare. At Martine, when it is heard booming, the people imagine it to be the voice of a "Jin" portending a bad season.

*FALCINELLUS IGNEUS* (Gm.). Numbers come to Tetuan in summer.

*PLATALEA LEUCORADIA*, Linn. Very rare.

*CICONIA ALBA*, Bechst. "Belarej." Held sacred, as in Holland, and consequently very abundant. I have counted more than sixty together in one place.

*PHENICOPTERUS ROSEUS*, Pall. "Nehaf." Very rare.

*TADORNA CASARCA* (Gmel.). Shot by M. Favier off Cape Spartel.

|                              |                                                     |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <i>ANAS BOSCHAS</i> , Linn.  | } Plentiful on the<br>pools in the open<br>country. |
| <i>ANAS PENELOPE</i> , Linn. |                                                     |
| <i>ANAS CRECCA</i> , Linn.   |                                                     |

*PHALACROCORAX CARBO* (Linn.). I saw one near Cape Spartel.

*SULA BASSANA* (Linn.). Common.

*PODICEPS MINOR* (Gmel.). At the Lakes during the whole year.

|                                            |                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>STERCORARIUS PARASITICUS</i> (Linn.).   | } On the coast in<br>winter; but I do<br>not know if they<br>remain for the<br>summer. |
| <i>LARUS FUSCUS</i> , Linn.                |                                                                                        |
| <i>RISSA TRIDACTYLA</i> (Linn.).           |                                                                                        |
| <i>CHROICOCEPHALUS RIDIBUNDUS</i> (Linn.). |                                                                                        |
| <i>STERNA CANTIACA</i> , Gmel.             |                                                                                        |

*STERNA MINUTA*, Linn. I saw one specimen obtained by M. Favier.

# XXVI.—Notes on various Indian Birds.

By R. C. BEAVAN, Capt. Bengal Staff Corps, C.M.Z.S.

(Plate X.)

[Continued from the 'The Ibis' for 1865, p. 423.]

240. *PIPRISOMA AGILE*. Thick-billed Flower-pecker.

In addition to my former notes on this species (Ibis, 1865,